

**Restriction Requirement**

Restriction to one of the following inventions has been required under 35 USC 121:

- I. Claims 5-9, drawn to a kit, classified, for example, in class 530, subclass 387.1.
- II. Claims 1-4 and 13 in part drawn to a method for diagnosis via antibodies and determining the presence of thrombospondin, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- III. Claims 1-4 and 14 in part drawn to a method for diagnosis via autoantibodies against thrombospondin antibodies and determining the presence of thrombospondin, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- IV. Claims 10-13 in part drawn to a process for the determination of dementia via an antibody and determinable group separated off, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 6.
- V. Claims 10-12 and 14 in part drawn to a process for the determination of dementia via an autoantibody against thrombospondin antibodies and determinable group separated off, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 6.

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

**Election**

Applicants herein elect, without traverse, Group II (claims 1-4, and 13 in part drawn to a method for diagnosis via antibodies and determining the presence of thrombospondin) for prosecution on the merits.

**Claim Status/Support for Amendments**

Claims 1-4 have been amended. Claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled. Claims 5-12 have been withdrawn. It is understood that claims 5-12, drawn to the non-elected invention(s), will remain pending, albeit withdrawn from prosecution on the merits at this time. Claims 1-12 remain pending in the instant application.

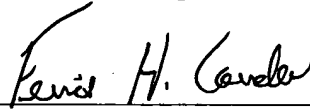
No new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims made herein.

Claim 1 was amended to clearly delineate the steps of the claimed method and to indicate that the method enables a diagnosis of dementia. Claims 2-4 were amended to provide consistency of language. Claim 4 was also amended to provide antecedent basis to the steps of claim 1.

**CONCLUSION**

Now that Applicants have fully responded to the Office Action mailed on November 4, 2003, an examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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